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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Thirty-eighth session, first part

OFFICIAL RECORDS
Supplement No. 2

Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget

on its twentieth session (16-19 April 1991)

UNITED NATIONS

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New York, 1991

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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For the recommendations, resolutions, declarations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, see:

First session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, vol. I, *Final Act and Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 64.II.B.11), pp. 18-65;

Second session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session*, vol. I and Corr.1 and 3 and Add.1 and 2, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.II.D.14), annex I, A, pp. 28-58;

Third session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex I, A, pp. 53-114;

Fourth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session*, vol. I and Corr.1, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-43;

Fifth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-50;

Sixth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Sixth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-40;

Seventh session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Seventh Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.II.D.1), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-27.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The twentieth session of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 16 to 19 April 1991.

2. In the course of the session, two plenary meetings were held. This report gives a short account of the proceedings of those meetings.

Chapter I

REVIEW OF THE UNCTAD SECTION OF THE PROPOSED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993 (agenda item 3) AND REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORKING PARTY AT ITS NINTH SESSION (agenda item 4)

3. In his introductory statement on agenda items 3 and 4, the Director of the Division for Programme Support and Management Services recalled that the quadrennial sessions of the Conference were not a recurrent special event superimposed on the normal life of the institution, but an integral part of its processes, determining its cycles, and setting its course, and largely affecting not only the orientation of the activities of UNCTAD but also the pace of its work, which for at least a year before and after each session of the Conference had to be significantly readjusted to the requirements of preparations for and follow-up to the Conference. The requirements of substantive preparations for UNCTAD Conferences were not unlike those of other major United Nations Conferences, for which special - sometimes sizable - secretariats were established, while in UNCTAD they were met within existing resources, in addition to the regular work programme. Above all, these Conferences were periodic occasions for renewal, which did not feature in the structures of other parts of the United Nations and were, as such, a very important distinguishing characteristic of UNCTAD. New approaches to the agenda and conduct of these Conferences had been introduced over time as evidenced in particular in the organization and outcome of UNCTAD VII, and these innovations could be expected to be further advanced in the preparations for UNCTAD VIII, which were also benefiting from the new methods of work successfully experimented in the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

4. The quadrennial Conferences were not the only instrument of adaptation and change for UNCTAD. The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of UNCTAD, in October 1989, had been used for reviewing UNCTAD's work and charting the way ahead. Also some valuable reforms had been introduced in the functioning of the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary machinery, which had led to a strengthening of the substantive dialogue and of consensus in the Board itself, and to a significant streamlining in the work of its machinery, including a drastic reduction in the overall number of meetings and a considerable streamlining of their agendas. Particularly relevant had been the decision that agendas of the Board's subsidiary bodies should comprise not more than three items, including a standing item on their own work programme, which was proving a most useful instrument for continuous review and adaptation.

5. At the secretariat level, the internal structures had undergone, after UNCTAD VII, one of the most far-reaching reorganizations in the history of the institution, aimed at better focusing the substantive work of the secretariat in the main broad areas within UNCTAD's mandate, and thus enhancing the secretariat's capacity to manage change. In retrospect this had been a timely initiative, also vis-à-vis other parts of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations, and it had helped greatly in the difficult task of

adapting to the resource cutbacks and post reductions which had been imposed on UNCTAD shortly thereafter, in spite of an expanding work programme, during the period of the financial crisis of the United Nations.

6. The achievement of the most appropriate balance between continuity and change was one of the most difficult challenges for any institution. It should be regarded both as a tribute to the continuing and renewed validity of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) and as a recognition of UNCTAD's capacity for adaptation and change, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his most recent report on the reform of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations, addressing the need for an integrated treatment within the United Nations of issues of trade, investment and technology, had pointed to UNCTAD as the focal point around which relevant activities of various United Nations entities dealing with these issues could be integrated.

7. UNCTAD being an integral part of the United Nations, its programmes must be fitted and integrated into the programme planning process of the Organization as a whole, which had its own distinct cycles, determined by the six-year medium-term plans and the biennial programme budgets. The resulting documentation naturally suffered as an instrument of dialogue with member States in the various United Nations entities on the actual content of activities, their evolution and orientation, and their interrelationships. Fortunately, the UNCTAD machinery provided many opportunities for such a dialogue, and the methods of work of the Working Party itself provided for an informal open dialogue with programme managers, to which the secretariat attached very high importance.

8. Turning to agenda item 3, he stated that the UNCTAD secretariat's programme budget proposals for inclusion in the United Nations proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (TD/B/WP(XX)/Misc.1) was organized and presented in accordance with instructions issued by United Nations Headquarters for the United Nations programme budget as a whole. He recalled that UNCTAD VIII would now take place early in the new biennium and that its outcome might significantly affect the content and orientation of the programmes contained in the documentation before the Working Party.

9. The structure and the presentation of the new programme budget were different from those of the current and previous biennia. The 1992-1993 programme budget would be the first to be prepared on the basis of the new structure introduced in the context of the Medium-term Plan for 1991-1997; also the current system of grouping into programme elements had been dropped and narratives were limited to a listing of outputs within each subprogramme, organized under predetermined output categories. New orientations to, and areas of emphasis in, the work programme for 1992-1993 were outlined in the introduction to each programme.

10. The outcome of the Working Party's review would be conveyed to the United Nations Headquarters and would be taken into account by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in finalizing his proposals. United Nations Headquarters would issue the Programme Budget for 1992-1993 in fascicle form, with the inclusion of budgetary proposals, for consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and for final action by the General Assembly.

11. In the same context, he mentioned that consultations were currently underway with United Nations Headquarters on a number of concerns relating to the capacity of the UNCTAD secretariat to implement effectively the work programme in various areas. These included: arrangement for coordination of UNCTAD action in support of African recovery and development, which the UNCTAD secretariat would intend to place on a more permanent basis, subject to the relevant decision of the General Assembly; the secretariat's capacity to pursue, within subprogramme 14.3, new mandates relating to the revitalization of the economic growth of developing countries and their sustained development, as called for in Board decision 384 (XXXVII), new work on adjustment policies and experiences and the generation and mobilization of domestic resources, pursuant to Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade resolution 34 (XIII); and the integration in the regular work of UNCTAD of two work programme areas, namely TRAINMAR activities and the Trade Control Measures Information System (TCMIS).

12. Finally, he drew attention to the indications provided in the introduction to programme 13 relating to processes under way in countries in Eastern Europe and their trade and economic relations with developing countries, further to discussions at the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Board.

13. On agenda item 4, he recalled that the cash flow situation of the United Nations as a whole continued to give cause for concern, a negative flow being projected by December 1991, and that, as in the previous biennium, this had led to the allotment of funds to departments and offices of the Organization continuing to take place on a short-term basis, which obviously worked against effective planning. The resulting constraints, particularly in availability of funds for consultant services and travel, were causes for concern in UNCTAD in a biennium in which a major Conference - the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries - had been held and in which UNCTAD VIII was under preparation. Within the limited flexibility afforded by the current financial situation, the UNCTAD management had deployed resources and was proposing redeployment of a number of posts to deal with these requirements and to respond effectively to new and emerging priorities. However, if some of the concerns referred to earlier were not addressed, the capacity of the UNCTAD secretariat to sustain the high level of programme implementation it had been able to maintain so far risked over time being impaired.

14. If present constraints, affecting in different degrees different parts of the United Nations, were to be effectively overcome, measures to better focus and integrate related programme activities would have to be pursued not only within each United Nations entity but also among them. This requirement, as well as important policy and substantive considerations, had led the Secretary-General of the United Nations to endorse proposals initiated by UNCTAD and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations to bring about the closest possible programme integration between the two entities, leading, to the extent possible, to common inputs and services. In the same context, the United Nations Secretary-General had referred to the central role of technology in the development process and to the need for a much greater effort to ensure that the developing countries had access to it, and had stated that one way of enhancing the work of the United Nations in this area would be to relate more closely the work of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development with that of UNCTAD and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations.

15. Finally, he reported briefly on developments in UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities. Once again there had been in 1990 a further growth in the programme as a whole of about 25 per cent, reaching the level of about $22 million. About 40 per cent of the value of activities were carried out in Africa. Steady progress continued to be made in the programmatic integration of operational activities with the regular work of the secretariat and the Working Party would, in accordance with agreed arrangements, be reviewing technical cooperation in depth at its second regular session of 1992.

Action by the Working Party on agenda item 3

16. At its 96th (closing) meeting, on 19 April 1991, the Working Party approved the text reflecting the outcome of the review carried out on the work programme of Section 15 of the proposed United Nations programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (subsequently circulated in TD/B/WP/72).

17. At the same meeting, the Working Party adopted the draft agreed conclusions on agenda item 3 (TD/B/WP/L.62), having first taken note of two amendments to the draft. (For the text of the agreed conclusions as adopted, see annex I below).

Closing statements

18. The spokesman for the Group of 77 (Peru) expressed the satisfaction of his Group at the agreement reached at this session of the Working Party, which reflected once more the open spirit and the practical manner in which the Working Party conducted its proceedings. This was the third consecutive programme budget for which consensus had emerged in the Working Party, and he hoped that the other stages of preparation and approval of the UNCTAD sections of the programme budget would be concluded with the same fruitful results through a detailed analysis of the financial and programme aspects. The active participation of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in the informal discussions of the Working Party had been useful, timely and welcome. His Group also appreciated the manner in which the UNCTAD secretariat had prepared the new programme budget. The provisions of the programme budget had appropriately taken into account the substantive and policy framework provided by the Medium-term Plan 1991-1997 and reflected the mandates and decisions adopted by the international machinery of UNCTAD as well as by the General Assembly. The introductory statement of the Director of the Division for Programme Support and Management Services had provided a comprehensive picture of the issues before the Working Party and rightly placed the discussions on the programme budget in the wider context of the activities of the organization.

19. The new structure and presentation of the programme budget had created some difficulties in understanding it, but the information provided by the secretariat had considerably helped to overcome them. Perhaps the most delicate discussions in the Working Party had derived from the lack of clear legislative guidance given to the secretariat by the permanent machinery of UNCTAD on the manner in which the work in some specific areas should be undertaken. This was an important issue on which member States should reflect in order to avoid, to the extent possible, similar situations arising in future. That objective could be achieved through a clear assignment of priorities which should be reflected in the budgetary distribution.

20. The historic changes taking place in Eastern and Central Europe, and issues related to them, had far-reaching implications and challenges for the global economy and in particular for the developing countries. The debate on these issues had naturally dominated the deliberations of the Working Party. For its part, the Group of 77 continued to believe that this was an area of mutual interest for both developing countries and the countries in Eastern and Central Europe. The Group of 77 wished to underscore that this dimension should be duly reflected in the work of UNCTAD and in the secretariat documentation covering the overall problematique of international trade and economic cooperation.

21. The programme budget for 1992-1993 for UNCTAD reflected a wide spectrum of activities in areas of particular concern to the developing countries. The Group of 77 considered that UNCTAD should be endowed with sufficient resources in order to implement appropriately the work programmes defined by the intergovernmental machinery. The strengthening of the secretariat's capacity to undertake its activities was even more important in the tasks ahead, in particular the outcome of UNCTAD VIII. His Group firmly believed that UNCTAD should be enabled, in terms of additional and adequate resources, to pursue actively work and areas of concern and new mandates aimed at the revitalization of economic growth of developing countries and their sustained development, as well as on adjustment policies and the generation and mobilization of resources. His Group also wished to see UNCTAD have the capacity and the resources to give true and effective support to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Recovery and Economic Development 1986-1990, as well as for the integration of TRAINMAR and TCMIS in its regular work.

22. The spokesman for Group B (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) felt that the informal working group had unfortunately done little to reassure Group B countries about the function of the Working Party. To a limited extent, the budget had been amended to reflect better the relevant mandates, and the secretariat had clarified and, presumably, adjusted some of its activities. His Group was grateful for the participation of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in the opening stages. But he felt that most of the participants in the informal working group, as well as the secretariat, had not been ready to join his Group in achieving some of the real economies in the budget which Group B had hoped for, nor did they share Group B's views on the excessive level of real growth in the budget.

23. On the first point, Group B had pressed at various points for savings to be achieved through various means. None of these had met with much support. Group B would like to place on record once again its concern that UNCTAD had not been able to demonstrate any savings in terms of staff or resources, despite the abolition of one division (TRADSOC) and the horizontal integration of its work. Group B could not accept that horizontal integration would increase the secretariat's workload in regard to this issue, or that alternative structures were needed to deal with the process of integration and coordination within the secretariat. It was his Group's understanding that the modification of the programmes which the Working Party had agreed to had removed the need to establish such a "core", and he would be grateful for confirmation that this was so. UNCTAD should at least be in a position to redeploy its staff resources to work on new and/or priority areas.

24. Group B considered that the presented programme budget remained simply too much an undiscerning compilation of the various requests and mandates stemming from Board resolutions and decisions without a clear prioritization. His Group had pressed for justification of the many missions and studies referred to in the budget, and for their cancellation if they were of low priority. The secretariat had not in his view given adequate justification in many instances. It had not convinced his Group that duplication had been avoided. His Group had also criticized some of the references to work to service conferences which had not yet been mandated. Although some justifications had been advanced, there remained too much "prejudgement" of this sort.

25. On the issue of the overall budget growth level, Group B was grateful for the response by the Director of the Division for PSMS to the four questions he had asked. Unfortunately, his Group had not had enough time to evaluate this response fully. However, his preliminary reaction was to remain unconvinced that the budget represented zero real growth. Further clarification was needed on detailed aspects which his Group would pursue individually, or collectively, through the CPC or ACABQ in New York. There was no evidence that the UNCTAD secretariat had complied with the General Assembly resolution regarding maximum absorption of statutory cost increases. He much regretted also that the secretariat had not responded to Group B's request to show the Working Party the guidance from New York under which it was preparing the budget. The oral clarification given in the informal working group by the representative of the secretariat had left Group B with much remaining dissatisfaction at the whole system for member countries' scrutiny of the programme budget. The Working Party operated by consensus. So as not to obstruct work, Group B had reluctantly agreed to parts of the budget, after registering its reservations. It had done so, however, only on the assumption that the discussions in New York would agree on a level of real resources that represented genuine zero real growth and that this would be the main parameter of this 1992-1993 programme budget. Group B had not agreed to the programme, even as revised by the Working Party, under the currently proposed resource level; and he still expected the secretariat to apply to a large degree the reallocations and savings of the sort advocated by Group B.

26. The representative of China expressed his delegation's appreciation to the Chairman and to the members of the Working Party for the efforts they had made to ensure a good outcome for the session. The representatives of the UNCTAD secretariat had given serious answers to the questions raised by delegations and he thanked them for the substantive support they had provided to the Working Party.

27. He considered that the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 which the Working Party had agreed upon was a good basis for the forthcoming work of the secretariat. At the same time, one could not rule out the possibility that, in the light of the outcome of UNCTAD VIII and of other UNCTAD meetings in the near future, corresponding adjustments to the programme would be necessary. In general, however, his delegation supported the work programme as approved. He pointed out that, in reviewing and formulating the work programme of UNCTAD, the Working Party had to base itself on the directives laid down by resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and of relevant international conferences mandated by the General Assembly, as well as of intergovernmental bodies in UNCTAD itself. The outcome of all such meetings

should be fully respected by all members of the Working Party, since otherwise there would be no point in including their outcome in the Working Party's discussions.

28. The representative of Poland expressed satisfaction on several elements of the outcome of this session, which he welcomed as a sign of the growing responsiveness of UNCTAD to recent developments in the world economy. Recalling the views expressed at the recent session of the Board and during the Working Party, he reiterated that the East European countries did not see any need for a special intergovernmental mechanism or separate programmes or activities in UNCTAD to review and promote trade between developing countries and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Firstly, relations with developing countries might and should be considered under the general agenda of UNCTAD dealing with North-South relations. Secondly, deliberations in UNCTAD on East European trade based on an agenda item referring to relations among countries having different economic and social systems had lost its rational justification. He could not see any merit in discussing issues related to outdated mandates in a regional context for only this region of the world. Thirdly, no identification of specific means for promotion of trade between Poland and developing countries could be conceived other than those that were within the framework and the rules of the world multilateral trading system. Thus, also from that point of view, separate treatment of these issues in UNCTAD was mostly not justified, or even reasonable. Fourthly, with regard to technical assistance to promote Poland's trade with developing countries, his country considered that such assistance should be a business-oriented one. Fifthly, he acknowledged the right of developing countries to request the UNCTAD secretariat to undertake studies on the possible implications of economic developments in Poland. Such studies, however, should be part and parcel of the reports prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat under various agenda items of this organization. Therefore, he did not deem it advisable to establish an ad hoc focal point within the secretariat to coordinate activities and analyse the issues of developments in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. This task should be performed by the regular units in the secretariat. Sixthly, Polish economic policies could under no circumstances be subordinated to any particular outside interests. Thus, any studies undertaken by the secretariat or discussions in UNCTAD with respect to the possible implications of economic developments in Poland on trade with developing countries should not in any way imply any conclusions to this effect. Seventhly, any consideration of the implications of economic developments in Poland on trade with developing countries could not lead to the reintroduction, through the back door, of such an issue as a separate agenda item of UNCTAD deliberations, and/or serve as a reason for calling into being a separate UNCTAD forum or other body where this issue would be discussed.

29. Last, but not least, his country was convinced that economic developments in Poland would not only improve the economic situation in the country, but would create, in the long run, favourable conditions for the expansion of its external economic relations and for advantageous trade with developing countries. He was sure that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in the light of developments and also of the comments made in the Working Party, would make the necessary adjustments in UNCTAD's structures and activities.

30. The Director of the Division for Programme Support and Management Services said that the strenuous efforts made on all sides to reach consensus were yet another sign of the interest and support of all groups for the work of UNCTAD. He assured the Working Party that, although the exchanges of views had taken place in an informal setting, the secretariat had taken very careful note of the views expressed and would duly reflect them in its work. It was for him a matter of regret that the very short time available and some of the difficulties encountered during the session had not permitted the kind of open dialogue and exchange of views with the secretariat that had taken place in the past. He was confident that, if more time had been available for such exchanges, the secretariat would have been able to allay misunderstandings and some of the concerns just expressed.

31. The Chairman thanked the members of the Working Party for the efforts they had made. Much work - often difficult work - had been done, and the results were satisfactory. A consensus had been achieved by all members, which reflected the fact that much ground had been covered in order to reach common positions. He felt that the various statements made after the approval of the proposed work programme did not detract from the value of that consensus or from the worth of the document adopted. Rather, the statements were an enrichment, improvement and addition to what the Working Party had agreed upon. Finally, he expressed his appreciation to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD for his participation in the Working Party, and to the members of the secretariat for preparing the proposed programme and for their cooperation during the lengthy and arduous consultations.

Chapter II

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

(a) Opening of the session

32. The twentieth session of the Working Party was opened on 16 April 1991 by Mr. D. Hay-Edie (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Chairman of the Working Party at its nineteenth session.

(b) Election of officers (agenda item 1)

33. At its 95th (opening) meeting, on 16 April 1991, the Working Party elected Mr. M. Rifaah El-Tahtawy (Egypt) to serve as its Chairman and Mr. T. Carter (United States of America) as its Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

(c) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 2)

34. Also at its 95th meeting, the Working Party adopted the provisional agenda which it had approved at its nineteenth session (TD/B/WP/71). The agenda for the twentieth session therefore read as follows:

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Review of the UNCTAD section of the proposed United Nations programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

4. Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD pursuant to paragraph 4 of the agreed conclusions adopted by the Working Party at its ninth session

5. Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Working Party

6. Other business

7. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board.

35. With regard to the organization of work, after hearing the opening statement by the Director of the Division for Programme Support and Management Services (cf. chap. I above), the Working Party decided to meet as an informal working group to consider agenda items 3 and 4.

(d) Membership and attendance 1/

36. The following States members of the Working Party were represented at the session: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Bulgaria; China; Egypt; Germany; India; Japan; Kenya; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Sweden; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United Republic of Tanzania; United States of America; Yugoslavia.

37. The following other States members of UNCTAD, not members of the Working Party, were represented at the session: Algeria; Belgium; Bolivia; France; Hungary; Madagascar; Morocco; Portugal; Thailand; Tunisia; Turkey.

38. The United Nations Development Programme was represented at the session. The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT was also represented.

39. The following specialized agencies were represented at the session: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

(e) Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Working Party
(agenda item 5)

40. At its 96th (closing) meeting, on 19 April 1991, the Working Party approved the draft provisional agenda for its twenty-first session, submitted by the UNCTAD secretariat in TD/B/WP/L.63. (For the provisional agenda, see annex II).

(f) Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board
(agenda item 7)

41. Also at its closing meeting, the Working Party adopted the draft report on its twentieth session (TD/B/WP/L.61) and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the final report as appropriate.

Notes

1/ The membership of the Working Party at its twentieth session was: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Bulgaria; China; Egypt; Germany; India; Japan; Kenya; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Sweden; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United Republic of Tanzania; United States of America; Yugoslavia. (See report of the Trade and Development Board on the first part of its thirty-seventh session (TD/B/1277 (Vol. II)), chap. IX, para. 537). For the list of participants, see TD/B/WP/INF.24.

Annex I

AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORKING PARTY AT ITS TWENTIETH SESSION

The Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget,

1. Having reviewed the proposals of the secretariat on the UNCTAD work programme for 1992-1993 (TD/B/WP(XX)/Misc.1), in the context of the preparation of Section 15 of the proposed United Nations programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;

2. Approves the text as contained in document TD/B/WP/72;

3. Notes that the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (8-25 February 1992) may affect the content and orientation of the work programme of UNCTAD during the biennium 1992-1993.

96th meeting
19 April 1991

Annex II

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY*

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Review of draft revisions to the UNCTAD sections of the United Nations Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997

4. Report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD pursuant to paragraph 4 of the agreed conclusions adopted by the Working Party at its ninth session

5. Provisional agenda for the twenty-second session of the Working Party

6. Other business

7. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board

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* Approved by the Working Party at its 96th (closing) meeting, on 19 April 1991.

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